



Updates From the OEA President

When I became president almost two years ago, I developed a plan to keep teachers in OPS and continue to work on these topics. I wanted to update you on where OEA is on the following items on my list:

1. Increase pay for veteran educators: In spring of 2024, I proposed a pay increase for veteran educators and educators with a master's degree. We received a proposal back that increased pay for educators with advanced degrees and added the MA+18 lane on our salary schedule. This was an increase of 33.5 million dollars to educators over two years and will continue on the salary schedule in the future.
2. Shorten the day and have OEA input on the calendar: This is something OEA is continuing to work on all the time.
3. Mentoring program for new educators: OEA made a proposal to the district, but we are waiting to hear back.
4. Behavior and violence in the schools: This year, I have been able to go into schools to work with educators and help get them the support they needed. OEA continues to work with OPS on this issue.
5. Relationships between educators and admin: This year, the district has allowed me to go into schools and work with principals and educators to create a better working environment in the schools. I hope to continue this work into the coming year because there has been so much progress in this area.
6. Transfer process: OEA met with the district this month to go over the changes we want made to the transfer process. We anticipate changes coming next year.

OEA and OPS have built a relationship over the past two years that continues to grow and flourish. I look forward to building on that collaboration in the years to come.

High School Board opening:

We have an opening on the OEA Board for a high school rep. If you are interested, please reply to this email before May 12th at 5pm or come to the AR meeting on May 13th at 5pm. We will be electing a new board member that evening that will take office immediately.

MAYDAY: May 1st OEA is hosting a postcard signing event to let Senators and members of Congress know that they can vote against the closing of the Department of Education and the cuts to funding education. We will be at Legends on 72nd and Pacific from 4-6. Please bring food items for the foodbank.

Member Organizer Application:

Please see below for an organizing opportunity for association members for the 2025-2026 NSEA Membership Year.

Since Summer 2021 NSEA has been running a Member Organizer program. This is a paid opportunity for NSEA members interested in building power within their local union while developing leadership skills and gaining valuable experience. The program runs through multiple phases of the NSEA Year-Round Membership Campaign. All selected participants must commit to the entirety of the program if selected.

The 2025–2026 NSEA Year-Round Member Organizer Program will run from June 9, 2025, through April 30, 2026. A mandatory training will take place on June 11 at the NSEA Headquarters in Lincoln, followed by a half-day of local planning time with Member Organizers on June 12.

NEW THIS YEAR: MOs will receive a fixed stipend of up to \$276.60 every two weeks from June 9 to April 30. Stipends are contingent on progress toward agreed-upon YRO goals, including:

- Number of 1:1 conversations
- Education interest cards collected
- Members recruited
- Members engaged

***Payments are not based on hourly compensation.

Member Organizers strengthen their locals by (but not limited to):

- Having lots of one-to-one conversations with potential members about the importance of membership
- Organizing effective back-to-school events with focus on new employee orientations
- Engaging educators around issues that matter most to them
- Learning and using organizing skills to build power and capacity at the local level
- Building relationships with other educators from their affiliate and across the state

Apply here: <https://nea360.tfaforms.net/f/NSEAMOApplication20252026>

Applications are due no later than May 7th, 2025.

After you apply, a local leader or staff member will reach out to schedule an interview.

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